

Hello,

I would like to voice my opposition to the National Association of Broadcaster's (NAB) petition 04-160 which is trying to limit the ability of satellite radio company to broadcast local content. As a new satellite radio customer, I can personally attest to how much I enjoy the programming of XM Radio. It simply has better music, better variety and less annoying interruptions than regular radio. That is the main reason I have been listening to it almost constantly in the month that I have had it.

The ability to broadcast local traffic for major cities is a great service and while it takes a back seat to the entertainment value of satellite radio, it is a welcome feature. Regular radio stations do not provide consistent, frequent or comprehensive enough traffic that makes it worthwhile to turn to them for their information. I gave up long ago on their reports and have been using cellular telephone reports for traffic in the Boston area.

What this comes down to in my mind is the NAB reacting to superior competition in an unfair manner. There is no reason for satellite radio companies NOT to provide local information if we, as users, are paying for the right to listen to satellite radio. I know that I wouldn't have considered going to satellite radio if regular radio simply had a better product that isn't so pedestrian, mediocre, and indifferent. If NAB succeeds in stopping traffic reports on satellite radio, I am NOT going to suddenly stop listening to my XM radio and return to listening to regular radio. It will take a lot more than that, and even if I do turn into regular radio, it'll be just for the local information that I need, when I know I can get it, and then I'll go right back to my satellite radio. If they want to keep me there, radio broadcasters better come up with a better way of getting me there in the first place.